

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 129422

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DRAFTED BY ARA:NC:FJDEVINE:USDA:MR. SMITH

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ARA:ECP - MR. REYNOLDS (DRAFT)

USDA - MR. TRICK

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O 032225Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129422

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, OVIP, PFOR, VE

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE CONFERENCE - VISIT OF
SECRETARY BUTZ

REF: (A) STATE 119899; (B) CARACAS 5476

1. IN LINE WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS, BRIEFING MATERIAL FOR
SECRETARY BUTZ WILL INCLUDE INFORMATION ON OUR NEW EMPHASIS
ON STRENGTHENED BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH VENEZUELA.

2. SECRETARY BUTZ WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL
AREAS OF COLLABORATION IN AGRICULTURE. WE ENVISION ONE
MAIN WORKING SESSION OF 60 TO 90 MINUTES DURATION. AGENDA
WOULD INCLUDE SUBJECTS MENTIONED IN PARA. 3 OF REFTEL B
AS WELL AS USDA PROGRAM WITH IRAN. IN ADDITION TO SECRE-
TARY BUTZ, US SIDE WOULD INCLUDE USDA FAS ADMINISTRATOR
DAVID HUME, USDA ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR
QUENTIN WEST, AMBASSADOR, AGATT O'CONNELL WHO WE ANTICIPATE
WILL FORM PART OF ANY AGRICULTURAL WORKING GROUP
FORMED IN THE FUTURE, AND OTHERS DESIGNATED BY EMBASSY.

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PAGE 02 STATE 129422

2. WE BELIEVE USDA CAN PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN COMPLEX OF

US ACTIVITIES INVOLVING AND/OR BENEFITTING VENEZUELAN
AGRICULTURE ON REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BASIS.

OUR PURPOSE AT THIS TIME, UTILIZING VISIT OF SECRETARY
BUTZ, IS TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR THIS ONGOING ACTIVITY AND
SO TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT INCREASINGLY POSITIVE ENVIRON-
MENT WHICH WE HOPE TO BRING INTO BEING. THEN, AT LATER
DATE, IF GOV INTERESTED, USDA CAN FOLLOW UP SECRETARY
BUTZ VISIT WITH ANOTHER BY APPROPRIATE USDA PERSONNEL.

4. WITH REGARD TO EMBASSY'S ROUGH SCHEDULE (PARA. 4 OF
REFTEL B), USDA APPROVES, REQUESTING THAT FINAL SCHEDULE
REFLECT THAT MORNING OF JUNE 18 IS DEVOTED TO CONFERENCE.
PLEASE NOTE THAT ARRIVAL TIME NOW CHANGED TO 1910 HOURS
REPEAT 1910 HOURS, JUNE 17. APPRECIATE PROGRAM IDEAS FOR
MRS. BUTZ AND OTHER WIVES WHO MAY ALSO TRAVEL. HOPEFULLY,
WE WILL FORWARD DEFINITIVE LIST OF USDA AND CONGRESSIONAL
MEMBERS OF PARTY BY END OF WEEK.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: BASED ON USDA REQUEST, PLEASE
SUBMIT; (1) SUGGESTIONS FOR ARRIVAL STATEMENT; (2) THEMES
WHICH SECRETARY BUTZ MIGHT USE IN HIS LUNCHEON SPEECH AND
OTHER PUBLIC STATEMENTS; (3) A DETAILED SCHEDULE, WHEN
AVAILABLE; (4) EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROPRIATENESS
OF SECRETARY BUTZ HOLDING PRESS CONFERENCE; AND (5) NEED
FOR BLACK TIE OR OTHER FORMAL CLOTHING. INGERSOLL

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